

**PHOENIX FIELD OFFICE  
NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (NEPA)  
COMPLIANCE RECORD FOR CATEGORICAL EXCLUSIONS (CX)**

**Proposed Action Title/Type:** Right-of-Way Grant Renewal/Cathodic Protection Station

**NEPA#:** AZ-020-2005-0046

**Related #:** AZA-8458 (Casefile number)

**Location of Proposed Action:** T. 11 S., R. 4 W., sec. 24, NE¼NE¼. (USGS Quad Map is *Sikort Chuapo*). Travel south to Ajo on Highway 85 to a pipeline road south of the tailings on the east side. Go 14.2 miles in a northeasterly direction to BM 2557 to the site.

**Description of Proposed Action:** El Paso Natural gas has a cathodic protection station in place. It is needed to maintain and operate the pipeline in the area. The site consists of a shaded area over a gas generated pump. The proposed action is to renew the right-of-way grant for a 30-year term (02/25/2005 through 02/25/2035). The area they would be authorized for use is 30 feet wide and 897.6 feet long. This is approximately 0.62 acres in size.

**PART I - PLAN CONFORMANCE REVIEW**

This proposed action is subject to the following land use plan: *Lower Gila South Resource Management Plan*. Land cases will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis (page 11). Date approved: June 1988. This proposed action has been reviewed for conformance with this plan (*43 CFR 1610.5-3, BLM Manual 1601.04.C.2*).

**PART II - CATEGORICAL EXCLUSION DETERMINATION**

A. Verification of Listing: This proposed action qualifies as a categorical exclusion under Department Manual (DM) 516 6, Appendix 5.4. E. (9). (Renewals and assignments of leases, permits, or rights-of-way where no additional rights are conveyed beyond those granted by the original authorization.)

And

B. Exception Review: 516 DM 2, Appendix 2 provides for the review of the following criteria to determine if exceptions apply to this project.

**IMPORTANT:** Appropriate staff should determine exception, comment and initial for concurrence. If exceptions apply to the action or project, and existing NEPA documentation does not address the exception, then further NEPA analysis is required.

**NOTE:** The comments received from Sonoran Desert National Monument Natural Resource Specialist (Ms. Lori Young), and Phoenix Field Office Archaeologist (Ms Cheryl Blanchard) are attached for reference. The comments on the reviews are based on the original authorization. The proposal does not deviate from the original authorization and therefore the original cultural review appears to be sufficient.

CRITERIA	COMMENT (yes/no)	STAFF INITIAL
1. Has significant adverse effects on public health and safety.	No	Ilm
2. Adversely affects unique geographic characteristics as historic or cultural resources, parks, recreation or refuge lands, wilderness areas, wilderness study areas, wild and scenic rivers, sole or principal drinking water aquifers, prime farmlands, wetlands, flood plains, or ecologically significant or critical areas, including those listed on the Department of the Interior National Register of Natural	No	Ilm

Landmarks.		
3. Has highly controversial environmental effects.	No	Ilm
4. Has highly uncertain and potentially significant environmental effects or involves unique or unknown environmental risks.	No	Ilm
5. Establishes a precedent for future action or represents a decision in principle about a future action with potentially significant environmental effects.	No	Ilm
6. Is related to other actions with individually insignificant, but cumulatively significant effects.	No	Ilm
7. Adversely affects properties listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic places.	No	LIm
8. Affects a species listed or proposed to be listed in the List of Endangered or Threatened Species or adversely affects the species critical habitat.	No	Ilm
9. Requires compliance with Executive Order 11988 Flood Plain Management, 11990 Protection for Wetlands, or the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act.	No	Ilm
10. Threatens to violate a Federal, State, local, or Tribal law or requirement imposed for the protection of the environment	No	Ilm

### PART III - SIGNATURES FOR COMPLIANCE

PREPARER: /s/\_Linda L. Mullenix\_\_\_\_\_  
Linda Mullenix, Realty Specialist

DATE: \_\_5/23/2005\_\_\_\_\_

REVIEWER: /s/\_J. V. Andersen\_\_\_\_\_  
Jim Andersen, Team Lead for Lands & Realty

DATE: \_\_5/23/2005 \_\_\_\_\_

### PART IV - DECISION

I have reviewed this plan conformance and NEPA compliance record and have determined that the proposed project is in conformance with the approved land use plan and that no further environmental analysis is required. It is my decision to implement the project, as described, with the mitigation measures identified below.

#### MITIGATION MEASURES/OTHER REMARKS:

1. The right-of-way grant renewal will be issued subject to the same terms and conditions that were applicable to the original authorization.
2. All applicable regulations in accordance with 43 CFR 2800.
3. Any cultural and/or paleontological resource (historic or prehistoric site or object) discovered by the holder, or any person working on his behalf, on public or federal land shall be immediately reported to the authorized officer. Holder shall suspend all operations in the immediate area of such discovery until written authorization to proceed is issued by the authorized officer. An evaluation of the discovery will be made by the authorized officer to determine appropriate actions to prevent the loss of significant cultural or scientific values. The holder will be responsible for the cost of evaluation and any decision as to proper mitigation measures will

**ATTACHMENTS:** A location map is attached for reference, in addition to the resource specialist's comments referenced in Part II, page 1.

DATE: 5/23/2005